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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Thomas Dudley Ferguson of Oak Park, who passed away on March 16, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Ferguson was born in Hinsdale on August 23, 1938 to Mildred (nee Whitt) and James Carroll Ferguson; he was raised in La Grange and graduated from Cossitt Avenue Elementary School and Lyons Township High School; he married Carole Lindner Ferguson in 1959; he received his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana in 1962; and

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WHEREAS, Thomas Ferguson began his teaching career at Elmwood Park High School in 1962; in 1965, he and his family settled in Oak Park; he joined the Oak Park and River Forest High School (OPRF) history department in 1967, where he taught until his retirement in 1994; from 1986 to 1994 he served as chairman of the history department; in 1988, he started "Interpretations", an annual publication of the finest scholarly history writing by OPRF students; he was always delighted to hear from former students, who would stop him on the street decades later to tell him how much they had learned in his class; in 1970, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to teach for a year at the Sherborne School in Sherborne,

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1 Dorset, England, and, in the summer of 1971, the family
2 embarked on a memorable 6-week-long camping trip through
3 western Europe, Scandinavia, and the former Soviet Union; and

4 WHEREAS, Thomas Ferguson enjoyed jazz, photography, road
5 trips, good food, family history, hometown newspapers, C-Span,
6 the Civil War, old movies, tennis, and the White Sox; he and
7 his wife traveled together to all 50 states, the Middle East,
8 Costa Rica, and Canada; and

9 WHEREAS, Thomas Ferguson was preceded in death by his
10 daughter, Christine; and

11 WHEREAS, Thomas Ferguson is survived by his wife, Carole;
12 his daughters Sarah (William Neuman) and Heather (Annika
13 Fjelstad); his beloved grandchildren, Max, Emma, and Romy
14 Neuman and Josiah and Gabe Fjelstad Ferguson; and a large and
15 loving extended family; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
18 Thomas Dudley Ferguson, and extend our sincere condolences to
19 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Thomas Ferguson as an expression of
2 our deepest sympathy.